FOR MYSORE STATE

DEVELOPMENT (1952) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 5239

Dated 5th December 1952.

## [Despatch. Abstract.]

BROADCASTING - Talk on "Development of palm Gur Industry through Co-operatives in the Madras State" - Text - Approved.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.
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# DEVELOPMENT OF PALM GUR INDUSTRY IN THE MADRAS STATE.

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With the introduction of Prohibition in the Madras State, the palm gur industry received a fillip and attention was focussed on the development of the industry as a means to provide alternative employment for the ex-toddy tappers thrown out of employment. Tapping of palm trees for sweet toddy for the manufacture of gur was permitted in all the districts of the State except the districts of Bellary and Cuddapah. The tapping of palmyrah trees is permitted in all the districts except Anantapur, Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool and Srikakulam. Tapping of coconut trees for jaggery manufacture is permit in the Malabar District and parts of South Kanara and Coimbatore distri Tapping of date trees for the purpose of jaggery manufacture is permit in the districts of Nellore, North Arcot, Chittoor and Guntur and in select centres of Anantapur, Kurnool, Krishna and Srikakulam districts. Sago palms are permitted to be tapped for sweet juice for jaggery manufacture in select centres of the Malabar District. Under the Madras Sweet Toddy Rules licences for the tapping of sweet juice for manufacture of jaggery can only be issued to the members of the Co-operative Societies. Palm jaggery manufacturing Co-operative Societies have therefore been organised and the ex-toddy tappers were admitted as members of these societies. As on 30th June 1952 there were 2115 jaggery manufacturing Co-operative societies in the State with a membership of 1.63 lakhs. During the year ended 30th June 1952 the members of the jaggery manufacturing Co-operative Societies produced 22.52 lakhs maunds of palm jaggery worth Rs.78.13 lakhs. The societies are also undertaking the marketing of the jaggery of their members with a view to secure better price.

With a view to improve the quality of palm jaggery and to develop the industry on a scientific basis, a state-wide scheme was launched in December 1949. The scheme consisted of two parts, the first being the training of Palm Gur Instructors at the Central Palm Gur Training School, Cuddalore and the second being the imparting of training to the ex-toddy tapper members of the jaggery manufacturing Co-operative Societies by the Palm Gur Instructors at the homes of the members in their villages in the improved methods of jaggery manufacture and the use of the improved gur making equipment. The training imparted to the members comprises construction of improved safety furnaces with a view to reduce the consumption of fuel, application of lime to the pots attached to the trees for collection of sweet juice without getting fermented, washing and cleaning of the pots various processes of deliming the sweet juice before boiling and boiling the sweet juice using improved gur making equipment. In order to create an incentive among the tappers to use improved gur making equipments and to bring home to them the advantages in the use of such equipment 1000 sets of improved gur making equipment were distributed free of cost to them. Government have also granted a sum of Rs.10,000/- to be distributed to the members of jaggery manufacturing co-operative societies towards 50% of the cost of improved gur making equipments to be purchased by them. Arrangements are being made for their manufacture and supply to the members. During the year ended 30th June 1952 the Palm Gur Instructors conducted training at 610 centres and trained 4611 members in the improved processes of jaggery manufacture.

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The trainees produced 3659 imperial maunds of refined jaggery. Besides giving training to the individual tappers, the Palm Gur Instructors conduct demonstrations for the benefit of other members also. During the year 849 demonstrations were conducted. They were witnessed by 11,183 members of jaggery manufacturing co-operative societies and thousands of others interested in the industry.

Besides being converted into gur the sweet juice of palm trees is consumed as beverage. Only the people of Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts were accustomed to taking this beverage before the introduction of Prohibition in the State. Permission was therefore granted to the members of jaggery manufacturing Co-operative Societies in these two districts to sell the sweet juice to the public for consumption as beverage. During the year ended 30th June 1952 8,825 permits were issued to the members of 265 jaggery manufacturing Co-operative societies in the two districts. 17.09 lakhs Madras Measures of neera were sold to the public for Rs.2.7 lakhs for consumption as beverage. With a view to popularise the drink in other parts of the State also, two neera parlours were openeded by the Department in the Madras City as an experimental measure. Neera drawn from the date trees in the Government House Estate Mount Road were sold at the parlours. During the year ended 30 June 1952, 23,816 Madras Measures of neera was sold at the parlours Though the neera was very popular in the begining the sales divindled due to changed seasonal conditions later. Proposals for starting a neera parlour under the auspices of a local jaggery manufacturing co-operative society at Mangalore are under consideration.

Experiments are being conducted to produce white sugar from the sweet juice of palm trees with the aid of contrifugal machines. The palm Gur Instructors are being trained in the technique of production of white sugar so as to enable them to impart the necessary training and guidance to the members of the jaggery societies. Experiments were also made for the conversion of palm jaggery into palatable products like toffees, sweet meats etc. The manufacture of these products will be taken up by the jaggery manufacturing co-operative societies throughout the state.

The Madras State leads the rest of India in the development of palm gur industry through co-operatives. A coloured poster showing the statistics and progress made in the development of the industry in the State was exhibited at the Sarvodays Exhibition held at Nasik as an annexs to the Indian National Congress and a prize was awarded to the Madras State.

In view of the fact that palm gur industry is being carried on in this State on a large scale of the Government of India decided to set up a Central Palm Gur Research Laboratory in this State. With a view to demonstrate the system of climbing palm trees by the aerial repeway method two Palm Gur Instructors were specially trained in the art at the Central Palm Gur Training School Cuddalore and posted to the districts. They have so far conducted demonstrations in the districts of South Arcot, Tirunelveli and West Godavari. The system has been very much appreciated by the tappers.

It is estimated that there are 5 crores of palm trees in the Indian Union which if tapped for sweet juice for manufacture of jaggery would yield 11 lakhs tons of palm jaggery releasing 9 lakhs of acres of fertile land at present under sugar cane cultivation and make them available for raising 2½ lakhs tons of wheat or 3 lakhs tons of rice. Thus the palm trees provide a potential alternative source for the sugar and gur requirements of the nation basides releasing lakhs of acres of land for raising food crops. The palms unlike sugar cane, can be grown on w waste lands, canal bunds etc. and require no attention.

Eat more palmgur and help the Nation to Grow More Food.

JAI HIND.

(TRUE COPY)

(A B S T R A C T)

BROADCASTING - Talk on "Development of palm Gur Industry through Co-operatives in the Madras State" - Text - Approved.

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DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.NO.5239. Dated 5th December 1952.

Read the following:-

From the Registrar of Co-operative Societies,
Lr.No.R.C.7206/52, Q, dated 26th November 1952.

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O R D E R:

The English text of the talk on "Development of palm Gur Industry through Co-operatives in the Madras State" submitted by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies with his letter cited is approved for broadcast in Telugu/Tamil through the All India Radio Station at Madras/Tiruchirapalli on 17-12-1952/20-12-1952.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

S. ARULDOSS,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
Copy to the Station Director, All India Radio, Madras/ Tiruchirapalli.
Copy to Public Works (Information and Publicity) Department.

(TRUE COPY).

SUPERINTENDENT.

P.K.Amuthambigai 30/11

Examined by: A. Viswanathan 1.12.53.

Read by: A.C. Sita Lakshmi 1.XII.53.